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Cameras and security system to be installed at Vinnies Stafford

Vinnies Queensland has more funds for its many community programs in Brisbane's western suburbs, with CCTV cameras and a security system in its Stafford location set to save the charity thousands of dollars.

Vinnies was successful in securing \$5,500 (inclusive of GST) in funding as part of the third round of the Federal Government's Stronger Communities Programme to install the cameras, which will help the charity deter illegal dumping, vandalism, theft and anti-social behaviour.

Vinnies Queensland's Western Diocese Executive Officer Roberta Jays said any money saved by the increased security would be put back into the local area.

"Ultimately the CCTV will help us cut down on theft, illegal dumping and vandalism, which we have to pay to rectify or clean up, that money that we don't have to spend can then be put towards assisting people in need in the community," she said.

"The proceeds from our shops go directly towards our many community programs which include emergency relief, housing and homelessness support, mental health and youth programs, disaster relief and more."

Illegal dumping is upsetting for volunteers to have to clean up and can cost Vinnies up to \$80 an hour to run trucks to the tip.

Vinnies has already had success in creating a safer shop and a safer community, by installing CCTV at their Grovely location through a previous grant according to Ms Jays.

"Installing CCTV at our Grovely shop in Brisbane has resulted in a reduction of theft, vandalism and illegal dumping," she said.

"Neighbouring business have also reported a decrease in crime to their shop fronts which may be a result of the external cameras we installed.

"We are confident that alongside public education and improved lighting, the CCTV at Stafford will help us deliver similar results for the community."

As the Stronger Communities Program is a matched funding initiative Vinnies Queensland has contributed towards the total cost of the CCTV's installation.

Vinnies Western Diocese, which encompasses Brisbane's western suburbs, supported 39,154 Queenslanders in need in 2017.



St Vincent de Paul Society

QUEENSLAND

good works

In 2017 Vinnies Queensland assisted 306,831 Queenslanders and provided \$191 million in services and support to people in need.

ENDS

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